

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01H1/40 G06F1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01H G06F H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | WO 01 95069 A (KIRCHMANN CHRISTOPHER ;SAAFNET CANADA INC (CA)) 13 December 2001 (2001-12-13) cited in the application abstract | 1-6, 8, 10-13 |
| Y | US 4 476 357 A (STRENGOWSKI STANLEY S ET AL) 9 October 1984 (1984-10-09) column 7, line 47 -column 11, line 25 | 1-6, 8, 10, 12, 13 |
| Y | EP 0 282 867 A (SIEMENS AG) 21 September 1988 (1988-09-21) abstract | 1-6, 8, 10, 12, 13 |
| Y | US 6 156 981 A (HAMMOND BERNIE ET AL) 5 December 2000 (2000-12-05) column 3, line 38 -column 5, line 10 | 1-6, 8, 10, 12, 13 |
| | --- -/-- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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S document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

6 February 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/02/2003

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 008, no. 214 (P-304), 29 September 1984 (1984-09-29) & JP 59 095623 A (NIPPON DENKI KK), 1 June 1984 (1984-06-01) abstract | 11 |
| A | DE 198 20 765 C (WEIS GMBH DR) 28 October 1999 (1999-10-28) abstract | 1, 10, 12, 13 |

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| WO 0195069 | A | 13-12-2001 | AU WO | 7036301 A 0195069 A2 | | 17-12-2001 13-12-2001 |
| US 4476357 | A | 09-10-1984 | NONE | | | |
| EP 0282867 | A | 21-09-1988 | AU AU BR EP JP | 601557 B2 1329788 A 8801233 A 0282867 A1 63250072 A | | 13-09-1990 22-09-1988 25-10-1988 21-09-1988 17-10-1988 |
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